

Weekly Optic and Stock Grower.

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EAST LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO, OCTOBER 8, 1898.

\$2.00 a Year

In 1896 this country produced 90,000,000 gallons of distilled liquors and a little more than a round 1,000,000,000 gallons of beer and ale. This business in all, paid to the nation, states, counties and cities, as taxes, \$172,000,000. The capital invested in the business was in round numbers, \$1,000,000,000. Of wines, too, the country made 1,000,000 gallons, which is small, but is rapidly growing.

Who is Max Frost, the creature which has been spewing its filth over the good people of San Miguel county? Why, he is the fellow who was charged, while register of the land office, with receiving fees which he pocketed, instead of turning into the government. On this charge he was tried, convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary. Yet this thing, which ought now to be wearing the stripes of the convict, gets up on its hind legs and howls about fraud, speculation, corruption and theft on the part of the San Miguel County Commissioners.

MAX FROST is like his fellow countryman, who just after the civil war was put on the stand as a witness. The judge said: Uncle, do you know the force of an oath? Oh yes, Massa, was the reply. It means dat if you tells a lie, you sticks to it. Frost, having charged the San Miguel county commissioners with defrauding the people for their own personal benefit, with corruption, thieving, speculation and the like, knowing that he was lying at the time he made the charge, continues, parrot like to reiterate it, though he cannot but know that nobody believes him.

THE Republican Territorial platform says that the present Congress is Republican, and therefore anything which it may have done for New Mexico is to be attributed to the Republican party and not to the efforts of the Democratic delegate. What fools these Republicans be. Has there never been a Republican Congress before? Has any Congress, of any political majority, ever done anything for New Mexico, without the intelligent and persistent efforts of the delegate? The absurdity of the argument shows how utterly unable the Republicans are to bring one good reason against the reelection of H. B. Ferguson.

SMALL HOPE.

Most encouraging reports from the banner Republican county of Valencia. The Republican Congressional candidate will get a very handsome majority in that county.—New Mexican.

Atax, this would seem to indicate that you were somewhat discouraged over the prospect of the Republican Congressional candidate being able to carry Valencia county, where the sheep are permitted to vote the Republican ticket. Glad you have received more encouraging news and that you now think it possible for the Republicans to carry Valencia county.—Bland Herald.

THE END NOT YET.

The Commissioners of San Miguel county, under the present district attorney and the late chief justice of the Territory, decided on a certain line of conduct, in the payment of taxes, and the said conduct has resulted in the wiping out of some \$80,000 of floating debt, which else had been saddled upon the people in bonds, for many years to come.

The editor of the New Mexican pronounced the proceeding illegal. This is a question of opinion, on which lawyers differ; and had the New Mexican stopped at the point, THE OPTIC would have had little or nothing to say. But measuring other people's corn in his own bushel measure, Max Frost charged the county commissioners with adopting this course for the purpose of filling their own pockets and those of their particular friends; charged them with corruption, fraud, speculation, and all manner of dishonesty, personal and official. THE OPTIC denied these charges, for every one in the county knew them to be untrue. But as Max Frost continued to make them, knowing them to be false, THE OPTIC plainly but fully set forth the kind of creature by which the charges were made.

That any one should dare to tell the truth on Frost, was of course inexcusable. So he flew into a rage, lolled his tongue out of his mouth further than ever, and sued THE OPTIC and its editor. But the end is not yet.

LEE SIDETRACKED.

Word comes from Washington that General Fitzhugh Lee will probably not be selected to command the army of occupation in Cuba. The military advisers of the President are of the opinion that a Regular Army general should be chosen for this important task, and in this connection General James F. Wade is mentioned.

General Lee's ambition to command the force is well known, and has enlisted much popular sympathy. He has applied formally for the detail, and he is quoted as saying to his friends that if he fails in his object he will resign. He is destined, according to present plans, to have a subordinate command in the Cuban army, and it is stated at the Department that no argument or persuasion on the part of his friends is likely to increase the importance of his detail.

Not a few of the Regular Army officers would be likely to resent the assignment of a volunteer to the command of 50,000 or 60,000 troops when high officers of the regular service are still awaiting duty at the front.

The same principle pursued with reference to General Grant, in the civil war, would have doubtless made great difference in the final result.

The Spanish Cortes is holding a protracted session under the you're-another order of business.

EDITORIAL PITH.

The Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph tells of the soft snap the French had in Africa as follows: A party of French soldiers in west Africa has defeated the Sofa tribe. In other words, part of France's standing army sat on the Sofas.

In the opinion of the St. Paul Press, the announcement that all the Peace Commissioners have gained in health during their voyage, is a good omen. Men need to be in good physical condition for peace negotiations, almost as much as for war.

The Boston Globe says that by the terms of his grandfather's will, a Chicago man who has a penchant for liquor has inherited the right to get drunk, and \$6000 a year is provided for him for that purpose. And yet there are men who say there is no such thing as luck.

This is a timely thought from the Cleveland Plain Dealer. It says Editor Hearst is playing the role of the Czar in New York. He wants the local editors to lay down their animosities and be friendly. That's all right, but let Mr. Hearst show his good intentions by first disarming Col. Thénoux.

Here's a small bouquet from the Chicago News: The fighting Twenty-fourth regiment, colored, that won new glory for its race at San Juan and El Caney, passed through Chicago. The colored race has reason to be proud of its record in the civil war and in that just closed.

The Houston Post is happy, and says Alger, Sternberg & Co. have at last been driven to the point of shifting the responsibility. They and their cuckoos wouldn't admit for a time that there was any responsibility to shift. Whenever the press goes after a public official in dead earnest and with such a collection of facts as was at its command in this case, he might as well come down off his perch gracefully.

Doctors in Consultation. From Benjamin Franklin.

"When you are sick, what you like best is to be chosen for a medicine in the first place; what experience tells you is best, is to be chosen in the second place; what reason (i. e. Theory) says is best is to be chosen in the last place. But if you can get Dr. Inclination, Dr. Experience and Dr. Reason to hold a consultation together, they will give you the best advice that can be taken."

When you have a bad cold Dr. Inclination would recommend Chamberlain's Cough Remedy because it is pleasant and safe to take. Dr. Experience would recommend it because it never fails to effect a speedy and permanent cure. Dr. Reason would recommend it because it is prepared on scientific principles, and acts on nature's plan in relieving the lungs, opening the secretions and restoring the system to a natural and healthy condition. For sale by K. D. Goodall, Depot Drug Store.

THE SIZE OF THE BEAR.

The other day, under the direction of M. Lockroy, French Minister of Marine, at Toulon, an obsolete steel-protected battleship was made a target, and at a distance of 3000 yards four battleships and two cruisers sunk the old ship in fifteen minutes. The immediate cause of her destruction was the igniting of her interior woodwork—just as was the case of the Spanish ships at Manila and Santiago. The French squadron discharged 500 projectiles, ninety of which were 13½-inch caliber, and 30 per cent took effect. And now all France is dancing over the fact that while 30 per cent of their shots took effect, only 3 per cent of the American projectiles fired at Santiago took effect, hence by straight mathematics the French are ten times as accurate gunners as the Americans.

Once in a small California town, says the Salt Lake Tribune, a man drove up with a dead bear in his wagon. A crowd gathered around to see the bear, and finally a men came along, and looking into the wagon, turned away and in a contemptuous tone said: "That's not much of a bear." The man who had killed the animal looked up and answered quietly: "No, not much of a bear, but, stranger, it makes a mighty size of difference in the size of a bear, whether you look at him this way, or whether he is coming toward you lively like, with his ears back and his mouth open." That story ought to be told the Frenchmen; it has a direct application.

NAPOLEON'S VALUE OF VICTORY.

It Finds a Striking Counterpart in Recent World Triumphs.

Napoleon knew well the value of a victory. After Austerlitz the world seemed his. Fame invited, fortune favored, everything stimulated his aspiring ambition. With growing power he gathered the fruits of victory. And so has it ever been. Success succeeds. A notable illustration of this truth is furnished by the great victories won at the World's Fair in '93 and the California Midwinter Fair in '94 by Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder. Ever increasing sales and popularity have been the result. The people have promptly ratified the official verdicts that declared Dr. Price's, for leavening power, keeping qualities, purity and general excellence the "foremost baking powder in all the world." Quite as quickly as the great Emperor do they know the value of a victory that means world-wide supremacy.

The key to health is in the kidneys and liver. Keep these organs active and you have health, strength and cheerful spirits. Prickly Ash Bitters is a stimulant for the kidneys, regulates the liver, stomach and bowels. A golden household remedy. For sale by Murphree-Van Patten Drug Co.

Austria made 70,000 bicycles in 1897.